

Message Text

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SUBJECT: GENEVA GROUP-RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND INDICATIONS OF
INCREASED INFLUENCE

1. SUMMARY: AT INVITATION IOB/REVIEW PANEL GENEVA GROUP
WORKING PARTY ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS WAS GIVEN SPECIAL
DEMONSTRATION OF IOB'S CORE DATA BANK. GENEVA GROUP UK
CO-CHAIRMAN HAS RECEIVED INVITATION IN BEHALF OF GROUP FROM
MR. DADZIE, DIRECTOR FOR INTER AGENCY AFFAIRS GENEVA TO
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PARTICIPATE IN GENEVA SEMINAR ON MARTIN HILL'S FORTHCOMING

UNITAR STUDY ON ORDER AND COHERENCE IN UN SYSTEM. GROUP'S WORKING PARTY ON LONG TERM PLANNING WILL MEET ON MARCH 29 WITH MAURICE BERTRAND AT LATTERS SUGGESTION TO DISCUSS HIS MEW JIU REPORT ON MEDIUM TERM PLANNING IN UN SYSTEM. END SUMMARY.

2. A SERIES OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS APPEAR INDICATE ENHANCED INFLUENCE OF GENEVA GROUP PARTICULARLY IN AREA OF INTER AGENCY AFFAIRS. THE COOPERATION OF GROUP MEMBERS IN 55TH ECOSOC IN ACHIEVING UNANIMOUS DECISIONS IN AREAS OF (A) INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND (B) INCREASED INTER AGENCY COOPERATION IN PLANNING HAS APPARENTLY NOT BEEN WITHOUT ITS IMPACT. MOREOVER THE GROUP'S PLANS FOR FURTHER COOPERATION (E.G. 11TH CONSULTATION'S DECISION RE COOPERATION ON AGENCY IN-DEPTH STUDIES FOR ECOSOC AND FOR REVIEWS OF RESOLUTIONS, ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRAL EVALUATION SYSTEM, ETC.) ARE, OF COURSE, KNOWN TO AGENCY OFFICIALS. GROUP AND WORKING PARTY APPROACHES TO AN MEETINGS WITH SUCH UN AND AGENCY OFFICIALS AS A/DG FURTH (SHO), DENBY (ILO), MUNTEANU (WHO), DRUCKS (IOB), MCKAY (ICC), ITU/D/DG, BUTLER (IOB REVIEW PANEL), UNESCO'S FORBES (IOB) MAY ALSO HAVE HAD ENHANCING EFFECT OF GROUP'S ACTIVITIES.

3. AT INVITATION OF IOB REVIEW PANEL GENEVA GROUP WORKING PARTY ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS ATTENDED A SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION OF THE IOB/ICC DATA BANK ON MULTILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (CORE-COMMON REGISTRY). PURPOSE OF DEMONSTRATION WAS INDICATE PROGRESS MADE IN CORE AND, HOPEFULLY, (FROM UN/INTER AGENCY STAFF VIEWPOINT) AMELIORATE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTMENT FORESEEN IN THIS SUMMER'S ECOSOC WHEN ACC REVEALS IT UNABLE TO RESPOND FULLY TO ECOSOC DECISION AT ITS 55TH SESSION RE IN-DEPTH STUDY ON INFORMATION SYSTEMS. WORKING PARTY CHAIRMAN WAS GIVEN BENEFIT OF SPECIFIC EXPLANATIONS BY CHAIRMAN OF IOB REVIEW PANEL (BUTLER) AND MR. PETER CASSON OF UN/INTER AGENCY OFFICERS STAFF THAT ECOSOC MUST BE REASONABLE IN ITS REQUIREMENTS AND THAT CORE PROJECT HAS GREAT POTENTIAL IN ITS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT TO PROVIDE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WITH TYPE OF INFO THEY SEEK AND IN LEADING WAY TO EVENTUAL DEVELOPMENT OF COMMON CONCEPTS.

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4. MEMBERS OF WORKING PARTY WERE IMPRESSED WITH CORE FORMAT IF NOT ITS CONTENTS. OBVIOUSLY, IF CORE DATA BANK IS TO BE USEFUL SOURCE OF INFO ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IT WILL HAVE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION IN MUCH GREATER DEPTH AND BE ENLARGED TO COVER A GREATER PERCENTAGE OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS OF THE AGENCIES. MOREOVER, IT SEEMED CLEAR TO MAJORITY OF WORKING PARTY MEMBERS THAT CORE COULD NOT ACHIEVE THAT LEVEL OF

USEFULNESS WITHOUT THE UN SYSTEM FIRST ACHIEVING A SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF PROGRESS TOWARD THOSE COMMON CONCEPTS OF INFORMATION, THE EVENTUAL DEVELOPMENT OF WHICH WAS THE PRINCIPLE PURPOSE OF THE ECOSOC DECISION CALLING FOR AN IN-DEPTH STUDY.

5. WE SENDING COPIES OF IOB STAFF REPORT TO IOB/ACC ON STATUS OF CORE PROJECT TO DEPT UNDER SEPARATE COVER. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT IOB MEETING IN PARIS LAST WEEK HEARD RATHER ENCOURAGING SUPPORT FOR CORE FROM UNDP (OLIVER) AND AGREEMENT FROM WHO TO PARTICIPATE AS THE AGENCY CONCERNED IN THE SECOND OF PILOT PROJECT STAGE OF CORE. HAVING NO COMPLETELY WORKED OUT COMPUTERIZED FORMAT OF ITS OWN ON PROJECTS WHO WILL ADOPT CORE FORMAT (PROJECT DESCRIPTION, ETC.).

6. AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THE INCREASING INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE UN/INTER AGENCY STAFF IN THE OPINION OF GENEVA GROUP COUNTRIES THE UK CO-CHAIRMAN OF GROUP HAS RECEIVED AN INQUIRY FROM MR. DADZIE, DIRECTOR FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS IN GENEVA AS TO WHETHER THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WOULD BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN A SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN GENEVA ON THE SUBJECT OF UNITAR STUDY ENTITLED "ORDER AND COHERENCE IN UN SYSTEM". THIS STUDY PREPARED BY MARTIN HILL WILL BE SUBJECT OF A SEMINAR IN NEW YORK ON MAY 6 AND 7 AND IN GENEVA ON JUNE 27 AND 28.

7. THE WORKING PARTY ON LONG TERM PLANNING (CANADA, UK, FRANCE AND GERMANY) MET ON MARCH 22 AND ELECTED MR. FAURIS (FRANCE) AS ITS CHAIRMAN FOR 1974. AS ITS FIRST PROJECT THE WORKING PARTY WILL MEET WITH MR. MAURICE BERTRAND OF JOINT INSPECTION UNIT AT HIS SUGGESTION PROBABLY ON MARCH 29 FOR A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF HIS REPORT. A SECOND MEETING WITH BERTRAND MAY TAKE PLACE A FEW WEEKS LATER SHOULD MEMBERS WISH TO POSE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BASED UPON THEIR GOVERNMENTS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REACTION TO THE REPORT. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT BERTRAND REPORT, ALTHOUGH AVAILABLE IN LIMITED NUMBERS OF COPIES, IS NOT OFFICIALLY AVAILABLE UNTIL AFTER IT HAS BEEN REVIEWED BY AGENCY DIRECTORS FOLLOWING WHICH IT WILL BE REPUBLISHED WITH AGENCY COMMENTS ATTACHED. BERTRAND TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT HE CONSIDERS HIS CONSULTATIONS WITH GENEVA GROUP MEMBERS TO COMPRISE PART OF HIS INVESTIGATION OF THE SUBJECT.DALE

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